

the book pours a stream of light first on all
the ignoble
shifts to which middle-class folk of small means
are put in
their insane endeavours to ape their wealthier
neighbours,
and secondly on the evils that arise from that
dowry system
which superficial people regard as proving the
foresight and
wisdom of the Trench when they embark on
the sea of
matrimony. As a matter of fact, it
frequently happens